

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
OCTOBER 19, 2006**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Harry Saltzgaver, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Senior Center Library. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**Present:** Harry Saltzgaver, President  
Drew Satariano, Vice President  
Simon George  
Albert Guerra  
Bob Livingstone  
Brett Waterfield

**Absent:** Sarah Tong Sangmeister (excused)

**Staff:** Phil Hester, Director, Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau  
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau  
J.C. Squires, Manager, Business Operations Bureau  
Chrissy Marshall, Manager, Community Recreation Programs Bureau  
Dave Ashman, Manager, Special Events and Filming Bureau  
Lt. Joe Stilinovich, Park Rangers  
Bill Greco, Acting Chief Park Ranger  
Hurley Owens, Supervisor, Facility Maintenance  
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

**Guests:** Antonio Ruiz, The Creativity Network  
Robert Lamond, Partners of Parks  
Deborah Stanley, Boeing – Douglas Park  
David Denevan  
Kristen Autry, East Village Association  
Cathy Jacobson Guzy, Tennis Centers  
Stacia Mancini, 5<sup>th</sup> District Council Office  
Jerry Von, SEIU Local 660  
Antonio Ruiz

**It was moved by Commissioner Waterfield and seconded by Vice President Satariano to excuse the absence of Commissioner Sarah Tong Sangmeister. The motion carried unanimously.**

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 21, 2006**

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner George to approve the September 21, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION FOR OCTOBER**

President Saltzgaver stated that Vice President Satariano would announce the Employee of the Month for October.

Vice President Satariano announced Diane Bentley as Field Operations Employee of the Month for October.

Ms. Eileen Fortin, Superintendent of Finance and Controls, spoke about Ms. Bentley, who is the Department's courier.

Ms. Chrissy Marshall stated that the Department recently entered into a M.O.U. with the Police Department to oversee the park ranger program by a Police Lieutenant. She introduced Lt. Joe Stilinovich and the Department is extremely excited about having support from the Police Department. She said that Bill Greco has been doing an outstanding job filling in.

Lt. Stilinovich gave his background to the Parks and Recreation Commission and said he is excited to work for the Department.

**IV. REPORT ON THE 2006 SEA FESTIVAL – CHRIS POOK**

Mr. Dave Ashman distributed a copy of a Sea Festival event summary.

Mr. Pook stated that Sea Festival events have been in Long Beach for 75 years. Two years ago it was decided that Sea Festival could be a good marketing tool to make the city a destination of choice during July and August. The Sea Festival Association of Long Beach, a non-profit corporation, was formed. The Association does not promote any one single event. It is an organization that coordinates all the independent event operators that comprise Sea Festival. The objective is to move Sea Festival into a brand and use these events to promote and project the assets the city has. This year there were 45 events with independent operators. The Association held a sponsor and event operator symposium in mid-June. Each event operator spoke on what their event was and the objective of the event and each of the sponsors spoke on their objective and why they were involved. This helped the operators and sponsors realize what the whole program was. They also established their website, [www.longbeachseafestival.com](http://www.longbeachseafestival.com). Mr. Pook said that they established a press committee, under the leadership of Kathy Parsons, the City's Public Information Officer, who did an outstanding job.

Mr. Pook briefly spoke about most of the Sea Festival events held. He said that next year they would reach out to more of the central, west, and north Long Beach communities to get them involved in the activities. He thanked the Department for all their help and support.

Mr. Dave Ashman distributed a document showing all the events, including the number of participants by event and press coverage by event. They also held a number of debriefings with the various departments involved in each event to make it better next year. He said that over 190,000 participate or attend Sea Festival events. Over 90 articles appeared in Long Beach publications from June 2006 to August 2006.

Commissioner Waterfield asked how it is decided which events should be included or excluded in Sea Festival.

Mr. Pook responded that the Association began with a core group of events. They took a look at any new event requesting to be included, to see if it would take place in the two-month window and to see if it would be a match to what they were trying to do, to fit into the marketing plan of Sea Festival. Having an event under the Sea Festival umbrella is an advantage because permit fees get waived. The Association tried to distinguish what would be good for a Sea Festival event and Long Beach, as opposed to what would be good only for the operator.

Commissioner Waterfield said that Mr. Pook mentioned working on outreach to communities that wouldn't normally attend these events. What might you do differently to increase those numbers and be more appealing to those communities?

Mr. Pook responded that the biggest issue was getting the people from the north, west and central areas of the city and transporting them to the beach areas. He said that there are a lot of moms who watch six or seven kids from different families, who they need to try and get to the beach area.

Mr. Hester stated that Sea Festival events are Long Beach lifestyle events, such as recreational opportunities like tennis and movies in the park. Just because the program is called Sea Festival, doesn't mean it is restricted to beach areas.

## **V. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS**

**#06-1001**

**PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL**

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.**

**VI. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**

**A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Executive Committee met and discussed the agenda.

1) Park Tour Status and Tour Map – Geoff Hall

Mr. Hester distributed the draft tour agenda and said to please let him know if the Commissioners wanted to visit additional facilities. They conducted a park tour for the Parks and Recreation Commissioners for the first time last year and it was very successful. It is a good opportunity for new staff to tour the parks also.

**B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE**  
President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee met this morning and has an action item, which will occur later on the agenda.

1) Highlights of the FY 2007 Budget – J.C. Squires

Mr. Squires distributed a FY 2007 budget summary for the Department. He briefly discussed highlights of the summary.

Commissioner Waterfield asked about sports lighting under capital items. He asked if those sites had been identified.

Mr. Hester responded yes, that money is going to repair a major electrical problem at Blair Field. There was an electrical explosion last year. City Light and Power temporarily fixed the problem, but the whole electrical system has to be redone.

Commissioner Guerra asked where the issues statements came from, which are listed under the strategic business plan.

Mr. Squires stated that this was a team effort by the entire department meeting to come up with these.

Mr. Hester responded that this is part of the City's Focus on Results Long Beach program (FOR Long Beach). All departments went through a planning process and this Department was one of the first.

Commissioner Guerra stated that some of these issue statements seem to fall right into the categories of some of the subcommittees he sits on, so it would probably be a good idea to address these as a committee and help where they can.

Mr. Hester responded that it would be a good idea for the committees to discuss these issues.

President Saltzgaver said that the financial statement is included in the packet and that the final statement would be received next month.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Commissioner George, Chair

Commissioner George stated that the Committee did not meet, but the report is included in the packet.

1) Report on Graffiti in the Parks – Thomas Shippey

Mr. Shippey stated that Mr. Hurley Owens would give a report on graffiti.

Mr. Owens distributed a report with photos to the Commissioners. He described how graffiti has increased over the years. He said that a comprehensive program would be rolled out next year to help with more resources to fight graffiti.

Commissioner Waterfield said that he heard that murals seem to discourage graffiti.

Mr. Owens responded that mural do help cut down on graffiti.

Commissioner Waterfield asked if it is the plan to increase murals in the city?

Mr. Hester responded that staff are working with the mural arts program to paint more murals, but murals don't fit in all locations. Staff is also looking at materials that help deter graffiti. He mentioned that Community Development might be able to help with funding for the equipment and materials to help paint out graffiti.

Commissioner Guerra asked if law enforcement is able to prosecute when the people are caught?

Mr. Shippey stated that he and Mr. Arevalo sit on the Citywide Graffiti Task Force with the City Prosecutor, the Assistant City Manager, and other City staff. There is a certain amount of frustration because when taggers are caught, the judges have a tendency to just release them. There is a disconnect between the courts and the prosecution.

Mr. Bill Greco stated that he agrees with Mr. Shippey. The juvenile system is very reluctant to prosecute, they are more into rehabilitation.

Lt. Stilinovich said that there is a state bill going through the process that would change how juveniles are prosecuted. It would hold the parents accountable also. They are recommending that not only will the juvenile lose their drivers license, but possibly the parents would also lose their drivers license.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Guerra, Chair

Commissioner Guerra stated that the Committee did not meet. He said that there were no customer comment cards available in front of the El Dorado Community Center, nor at Leeway Sailing Center when he was there the other day.

Ms. Sherri Nixon-Joiner responded that she would see that the forms were placed in the facilities.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE  
Vice President Satariano, Chair

Vice President Satariano stated that the Committee met and there was a quarterly report included in the packet. He said he is amazed at the grant writing capability that comes out of the Planning and Development Bureau. He suggested that the Commissioners take a look at all the projects in the report and how they are funded.

President Saltzgaver commended the Department on doing what it can to create more open space in Long Beach.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Tong Sangmeister, Chair

1) Report by J.C. Squires

Mr. Squires stated that at the last meeting, the Commissioners asked for a brief update on the joint agreement between the City and the School District. He distributed a handout of the highlights to the Commissioners. The City has had a reciprocal use agreement with the School District since 1996. It excludes certain assets, basically those that have been leased out such as the golf courses, Blair Field, and the tennis courts. It does require the approval of both the Superintendent of Schools and the Director to go into a new facility. The School District and the City will be meeting this next year to discuss this agreement. As of today, the Department has programs at 14 different school sites, which are listed on the handout. On November 14, the Department is going before the City Council to extend the contract for another year, with the full intention of discussing a longer term this year.

Commissioner Waterfield stated that there was discussion at the City Council meeting about the WRAP grant funding with the ability to increase programming opportunities also.

Mr. Hester stated that through Proposition 49, the old 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant, the City received \$15 million to run after school programs for five years. This funding came through the School District, which worked with the Department and local nonprofit associations, to run a variety of after school programs. The City will be receiving \$10 million a year, through the School District, to open almost every elementary school and middle school after school on a continuous basis. Cynthia Fogg has been very active to push this forward. There is a one third match that is required for this grant. This means the WRAP program will expand.

G. SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Livingstone, Chair

Commissioner Livingstone stated that the Committee agreed to meet once a month for the next four months to facilitate the Special Events and Filming Bureau. Meetings have been set for November 8 and December 13. They will also do what they can to help the Community Recreation Programs Bureau.

Mr. Hester stated that Geoff Hall would forward an issue of dog walkers in the Recreation Dog Park, to the Committee in the near future.

**VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

**A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – AUGUST 2006**

President Saltzgaver asked for any questions on the monthly report. There were no comments or questions.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

President Saltzgaver stated that there were two letters received from Mr. David Denevan regarding an item later on the agenda.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Saltzgaver stated there was no unfinished business this month.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A SECOND AMENDMENT TO PERMIT NO. 28246 TO CREDIT THE PERMITTEE FOR THE OVERPAYMENT OF TENNIS CLASS RENT (NOT APPLICABLE TO LEASE RENT), CHANGE RENTAL PAYMENTS, CHANGE THE TERM OF THE PERMIT YEAR, CHANGE THE PERMITTEE'S NAME FROM CATHY JACOBSON GUZY, AN INDIVIDUAL DOING BUSINESS AS FIRST SERVE, TO FIRST SERVE TENNIS, INC., AND EXTEND THE PERMIT TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2008**

Mr. Squires stated that the operator, Ms. Cathy Jacobson Guzy, is in attendance and is doing a fine job in our parks. Due to a clerical error in calculating the rent many years ago, the operator is now due a rent credit. This has been negotiated over the last several months. The rent credit will be \$60,000 and will be amortized against her minimum rent, which is an unbased minimum rent of \$9,000 per year until this number is gone. However, during those months that she makes enough money, she will make a percentage payment above \$9,000 each year. We are also requesting that this be changed to a calendar year permit.

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to authorize the execution of a Second Amendment to Permit No. 28246 to amortize a rent credit in the amount of \$60,000 over an 80-month period, adjust the annual minimum rent to \$9,000, require Permittee to pay advertising costs if Permittee exceeds two pages of advertising in a quarterly class schedule, require Permittee in-kind contributions in an annual**



**amount not less than \$10,000, change the name of the Permittee from “Cathy Jacobson Guzy an individual doing business as First Serve,” to “First Serve, Inc.,” change the Permit Year from October 1 through September 30, to January 1 through December 31, and to exercise the first renewal option to extend the Permit term through December 31, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.**

B. RECOMMENDATION REGARDING DESIGN OF LINCOLN PARK REVITALIZATION

Mr. Eschen stated that Lincoln Park was the city's first park. Originally, the park was acquired in 1885 and was named Lincoln Park in 1920. The park received a grant from Andrew Carnegie to build a library, which was built in 1913, and continued to exist until the late 1970s. In the 1960s, the northern half of the park, between Broadway and Ocean Boulevard and Cedar Avenue and Pacific Avenue, was leased to Buffum Corporation, who built an underground parking garage under the park and rebuilt the park on top of it. In the 1970s, the City built the Civic Center and took down the Carnegie Library, which was damaged by fire, built a new library, and purchased the underground garage from Buffum for use as an employee garage. In accordance in keeping the area as park-like as possible, the park was replaced on the library roof. The park irrigation leaked into the library from the very beginning, which only got worse over time. It has been a priority of the City to try and correct those problems. There doesn't seem to be anyway to correct it other than remove the library roof and rebuild the whole roof. That plan was distributed in the packet.

Mr. Eschen said that they plan to replace the park on the roof with artificial turf, so that leak problems will be minimized. A new level of membrane will be added over the library roof and the turf will be replaced with artificial sports turf. There will be a walking trail around the park, built out of a synthetic surface like that used in playgrounds. This will be designed like a library fantasyland theme with oversized pages of books and skylights made to look like open books. There will be an area for reading and a small stage. The shade structures will look like pages of books and there will be individual seating that looks like stacks of books. There would be full handicapped access to the roof. In doing this, they are going to use most of Lincoln Park as the staging area for construction.

Mr. Eschen said that currently there is a Japanese garden located in Lincoln Park, which would have to be relocated between City Hall and the parking garage on Broadway.

Mr. Eschen stated that scattered throughout the area would be kinetic sculptures that look like sails and would swing in the wind and could be used for attractive graphics or for announcements. Wind baffles are also planned to break up the wind between the utility towers at City Hall.

President Saltzgaver invited Mr. Denevan to speak.

Mr. Denevan stated that he has been involved with Victory and Santa Cruz Parks for the last 30 years. He has also been very interested in Lincoln Park. He read his letter requesting that the Civil War cannon be returned to Lincoln Park. Mr. Denevan said that the cannon is presently located adjacent to Parker's Lighthouse Restaurant at Shoreline Village. He said he would be happy to raise funds for this project and donate \$1,000.

President Saltzgaver asked if the City has jurisdiction over this cannon.

Mr. Eschen stated that it has gotten a bit complicated. The loan agreement that Mr. Denevan mentioned was to the prior owner of Shoreline Village. That owner did not disclose the loan arrangement when he sold the property to the current owner. There is some hesitancy to go forward with trying to take legal action to re-obtain the cannon because of the lack of chain of ownership. The current owner does not want to give up the cannon.

Mr. Hester stated that we support what Mr. Denevan is asking. Mr. Denevan brought this to the Department before, during the initial planning process, and he submitted several documents and staff began to unwind some of these issues. The plan is to keep the Lincoln statue where it currently is and Mr. Denevan's request is not counter to what the Department is trying to do. Staff needs to start a process to find out how to get the cannon back.

Commissioner Guerra asked if there were any markings on the cannon.

Mr. Denevan responded that there are foundry markings on the cannon from when it was originally manufactured.

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to recommend to the City Council, City Manager, and Planning Commission that the proposed plans for the improvement to Lincoln Park and the Civic Center Plaza be approved, with an addendum to support the effort to acquire the cannon as part of the Lincoln Memorial. The motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Livingstone stated that a plaque should be placed describing the cannon and the part it played in the Civil War.

Mr. Bob Lamond said that the cannon is lost where it is. I can't imagine that the property owner would consider it of any considerable value in the location it is now.

C. RECOMMENDATION REGARDING DESIGN AND NAME CHANGE FOR DONALD DOUGLAS PARK AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF CARSON STREET AND LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD

Mr. Eschen stated that this is part of the master plan development agreement for the 260-acre site. They are also requesting that the southwest corner of Carson Street and Lakewood Boulevard be named Donald Douglas Park. There is already a park by that name, at Clark Avenue and Conant Street. He briefly went over the proposed plan.

Commissioner Guerra asked where the parking would be for this park.

Mr. Eschen responded that there would be parking within the development, but nothing specifically for this site.

Commissioner Waterfield asked if there are any additional plans for additional green space within this development.

Mr. Eschen responded that there are four park sites, for a total of 11 acres, throughout this development. Most of them are closer to the Lakewood Country Club border, west of this site.

President Saltzgaver stated that this part of the development was approved almost two years ago, but not the name.

Commissioner Guerra asked if there would be any functional uses for this park.

Mr. Eschen responded that this location is pretty small and is in the mini-park category. It would be too small to have a functional use.

President Saltzgaver asked if the correspondence from Mr. Denevan had been addressed.

Mr. Eschen responded that it has not been addressed, since he just received the letter today, but there would be a park sign at the location, which would address Mr. Denevan's issue.

President Saltzgaver asked if this action would include a proposed name for the current Donald Douglas Park.

Mr. Eschen responded no, it doesn't. He said that the Commission could recommend a name. The City Council office has also been contacted, but they have not responded with a proposed name yet.

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to recommend to the City Council, City Manager, and Planning Commission that:**

- **The 0.27 acre site at the southwest corner of Carson Street and Lakewood Boulevard is appropriate to be developed as a park;**
- **The formal design of overlapping circles and semi-circles focused on a statue of Donald Douglas is an attractive and functional improvement for the park site; and**

**Recommend to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee and the full City Council that moving the name of Donald Douglas Park from the park site at Conant Street and Clark Avenue to the park site at Carson Street and Lakewood Boulevard is appropriate and in conformance with AR 8-7. The motion carried unanimously.**

- D. REQUEST FROM SEIU LOCAL 660 UNION – LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION – FOR A WAIVER OR REDUCTION OF VEHICLE ENTRY FEES TO EL DORADO REGIONAL PARK FOR 600 VEHICLES

Vice President Satariano stated that last year, the Finance and Appeals Committee held a number of meetings about cost recovery and reviewed the fee waiver policy. Right now, he is inclined to not grant this request because it is for an organization outside the City of Long Beach. He needs to hear why this should be granted with all the boundaries on the fee work and the fee waiver policy the Commission has set.

Mr. Jerry Von stated the President of the Union wanted to be present, but was unable to attend. He said that their union has nearly 4,000 Los Angeles County members who live in Long Beach. Many of them are below the poverty level and it would really help them to have the vehicle entry fee waived or reduced.

Commissioner Guerra asked if the Parks and Recreation Commission has ever set any precedence like this in the past, where the entry fee has been lowered or waived?

Mr. Hester stated that in the 18 years he has worked for the Department, the entry fee has never been waived for any organization within the City or outside the City. The Department has waived picnic fees within the park, but never the entry fees, including City Councilmembers, etc. He said they have recommended that organizations buy passes and give them to the members so the members do not have to pay an entrance fee.

Vice President Satariano said that was the testimony he was looking for. He agreed that for some park attendees, this could be a lot of money. However, having attended all the meetings on fees and fee waiver policy, this request does not fit into that. There is no reciprocity between the County of Los Angeles and the City of Long Beach.

President Saltzgaver said that he is always concerned about a precedence that the Commission would set.

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Guerra, based on the fee structure that the City has in place, to deny this request. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **XI. COMMENTS**

### **A. AUDIENCE**

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the audience.

Mr. Hester stated that Ms. Mary Blackburn was in attendance today to give an update on the Nature Center.

Ms. Mary Blackburn, Supervisor of the Nature Center, explained that the Nature Center has a co-op extension program in Carmelitos to propagate plants for the Native Plant Sale, which is going to be held on October 28, at the Nature Center. She distributed flyers for the event.

Ms. Blackburn also described a wetlands program at the Colorado Lagoon for classes with students from Poly High School.

Mr. Antonio Ruiz stated that he is a member of Friends of Homeland Cultural Center. Their group was founded in the wake of the Department not hiring Zoot Velasco for the permanent position of Cultural Programs Supervisor. Zoot had been serving as interim supervisor for nearly 16 months. At the Tuesday City Council meeting, he complemented Mr. Hester for meeting with close to 100 people who had gathered at Homeland in support of Zoot and the continuation of the cultural programs. A recommendation that came out of that meeting was the formation of a community advisory group in order to give the community input on their ideas for programs with the new supervisor. He distributed a copy of a report from California State University Long Beach regarding Homeland with a list of accomplishments by Zoot. He said that it is important for the Department to be sensitive to the community's needs and to exchange in dialog.

President Saltzgaver said that the Department is always supportive of getting advice from the public.

Mr. Hester stated that it was an interesting meeting and Homeland is different from any other community center in the city. If we could take that model and use it for the other community centers, the city would be a much better place. It is unfortunate that this situation caused the need for a meeting like this. Staff heard the community's issue and respects them. A commitment was made to work closely with this advisory committee. The Department is committed to work with this advisory group to make a proper transition with the new supervisor.

President Saltzgaver said he has been watching Homeland for close to 15 years and agrees that it is unique and something to be emulated. As part of the library expansion, the Homeland center will be improved and expanded in the next year or two. It is hoped that the programs at the center would grow along with that.

Commissioner Waterfield stated that he would like the Commission to take an action to support Mr. Ruiz and the Director's recommendation in being supportive of the establishment of an advisory board at Homeland. He added that the Commission should be provided with a list of the participants of that board and possibly schedule a meeting with them. He said he would be interested in following that to see how it develops.

President Saltzgaver requested that this item be placed on the November agenda to take an action. We need to make sure that this motion is specific to make recommendations only to the advisory committee. This is not to include a hiring policy discussion.

Mr. Ruiz stated that in regards to the discussion on graffiti program earlier, I don't know if you work with the Public Arts Committee of the Arts Council. They just entered into an agreement with the Redevelopment Agency for north and central areas and maybe they could come underneath that purview.

Mr. Hester responded that Redevelopment has resources that could be used for murals and the Department will look to work with them.

#### B. STAFF

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the staff.

Mr. Hester said that the Silverado Park pool opening is set for Saturday, October 21. The following Saturday, October 28, we will be doing the installation of the Daryle Black statue at Officer Daryle Black Park. The mini-park was built and the official opening held. There was a desire to locate a statue of Daryle Black at that park.

Mr. Hester stated that in November they are tearing down a house for expansion of the California Recreation Center Park.

Ms. Sherri Nixon-Joiner distributed flyers of the Halloween Carnivals at 14 park locations on October 31, and the Veterans Day Parade on November 11.

C. COMMISSIONERS

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Waterfield mentioned that fellow Commissioner Drew Satariano was recognized at the NAACP Freedom Banquet for his work through the Yacht Club with the inner-city youth and getting them exposed to the ocean activities.

Commissioner George congratulated Phil Hester and his team for receiving the Gold Medal award.

Commissioner Guerra requested that staff notify the Commissioners as soon as possible on events, so the Commissioners can fit the events into their schedules.

Commissioner Guerra stated that the mobile skate park has been coming to the California Heights/Bixby Knolls area for several weeks on Wednesdays, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He was made aware of an emergency a few weeks ago where a youth was hurt pretty badly in his interactions with the skate park. He heard that there were no perceived procedures on how to handle an emergency and several people were using cell phones trying to get through on 911, which was Highway Patrol.

Ms. Nixon-Joiner responded that there is a procedure, which is covered in annual training for staff. Normally the supervisor follows up. She said she would follow up with this.

President Saltzgaver stated that he attended the National Recreation and Parks Association Conference in Seattle, Washington last week. He went through the entire exhibition looking for universally accessible playgrounds and was disappointed until he got to the Shane's Inspiration booth, where he spent half an hour. They explained to him that most playground equipment dealers don't put up front all their universally accessible stuff, because that is not what most people are looking at and is not easy to set up. There is a lot there that they don't display. President Saltzgaver stated that there were a lot of other things he discovered, which he passed on to staff. He said that he just has to say: "It is all about the passion." He said that the staff attending the conference have plenty of passion. It was a great honor to be part of that.

**XI. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2006, at El Dorado Park West, in the Senior Center Library, 2800 Studebaker Road, Long Beach.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Saltzgaver adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black  
Executive Assistant to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine